



Nanoscience for Insensitive Munitions Development



Presentation for Topical Panel

Nano and Biological Technology and Their Potential Applications

December 3, 2008



Presented by:

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U.S. Army Research Laboratory
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Propulsion Science Branch
Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005

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Goals:

Develop predictive capability

Identify fundamental reaction mechanisms

Assess and advance methods and models

Approach:

Quantum Mechanics

Classical Molecular Dynamics

Empirical Methods

Benefit to the Warfighter:

Increased Lethality

Reduced vulnerability

Faster, cheaper

IHEM01A/Theoretical Characterization of Energetic Materials

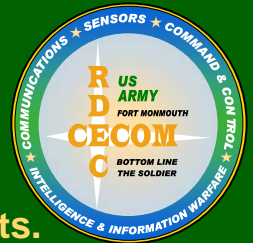
Develop enabling technologies to predict chemical and physical properties of EM to make *a priori* assessment of performance and vulnerability



US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Environmental Quality Technology Ordnance Program “Design and Formulation of Novel Energetic Material Replacements for RDX”

Replace RDX with EM ingredients that have:

- Reduced toxicity, reduced hazard combustion/detonation products
- Equivalent performance properties
- Meet and/or exceed JROC 113-04 Insensitive Munition (IM) compliance requirements.

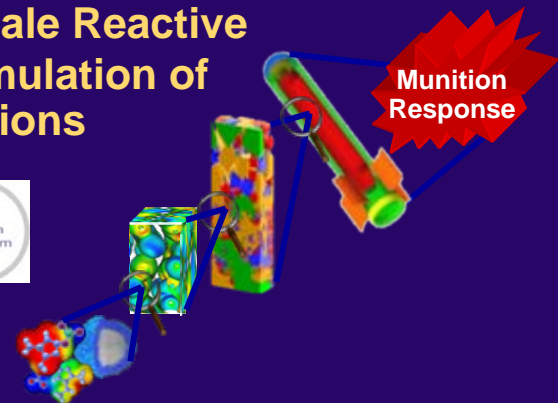


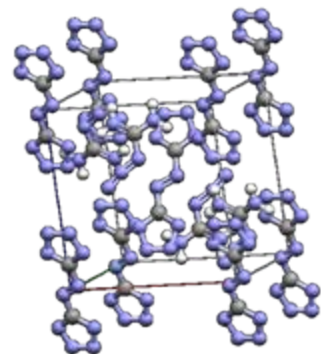
Office of Naval Research “Energetic Materials Modeling & Simulation Tools”

Assess and evaluate
emerging models and
software for EM research

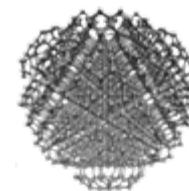
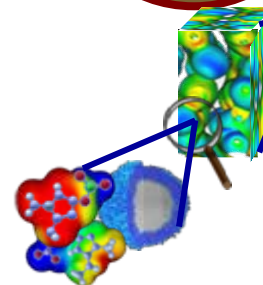
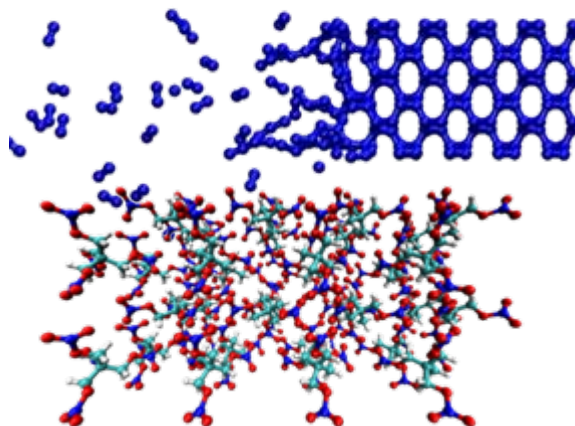
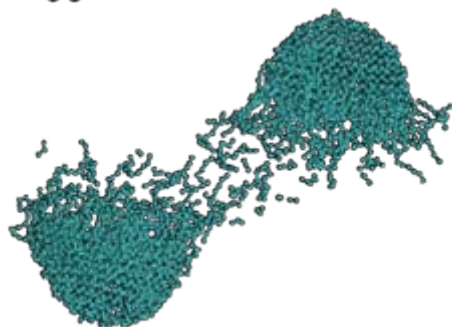
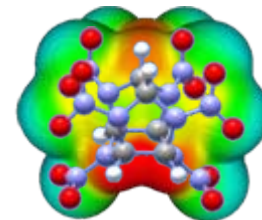
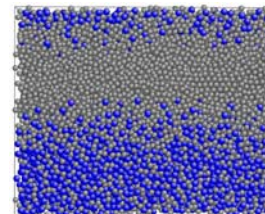


HSAI for Multi-Scale Reactive Modeling and Simulation of Insensitive Munitions

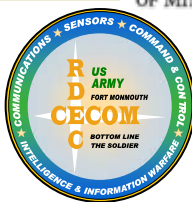




*Edward F. C. Byrd
John K. Brennan
William D. Mattson
Jennifer Ciezak
Rad Balu
Scott Weingarten
Anthony Yau*

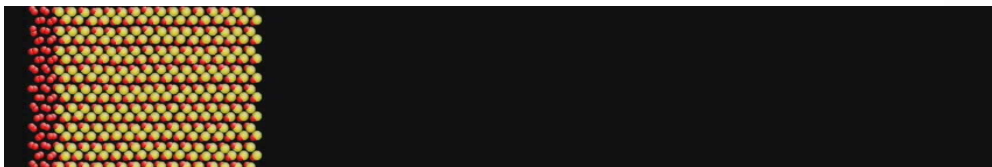


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Universität
München



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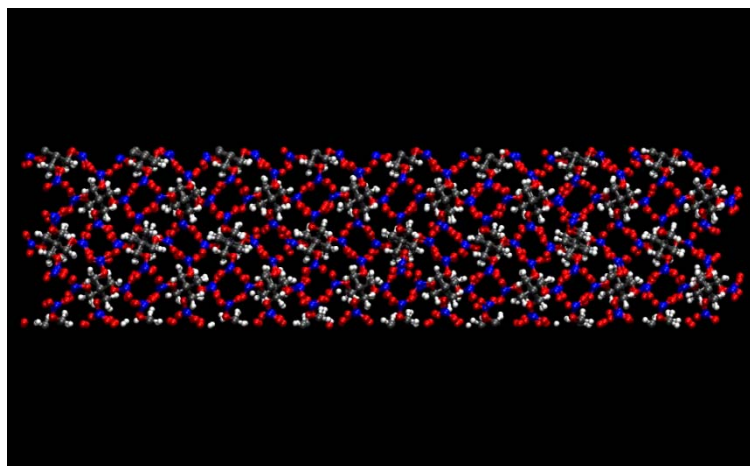
Classical MD



Self-sustained detonation of model explosive

Quantum MD

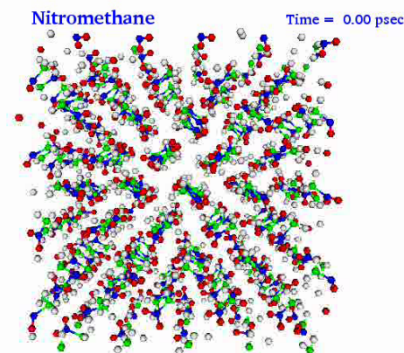
Shocked energetic materials



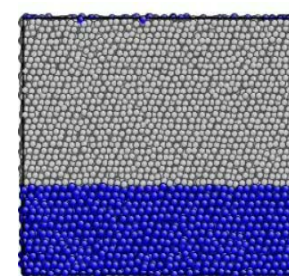
Conventional



Disruptive

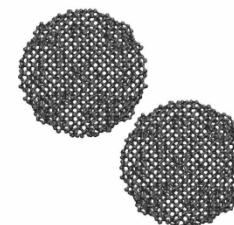


Melting of nitromethane



Thermal initiation of reactive material Ni/Al

Hypervelocity collisions of ND





Exploring Structural Bond Energy Release (SBER) in Nano-Diamonds using Quantum Molecular Dynamics and Static High Pressure

William D. Mattson, Radhakrishnan Balu, Betsy M. Rice, and Jennifer A. Ciezak



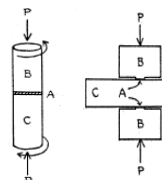
SBER: The release of excess energy stored in chemical bonds from structural deformation by compressing, stretching or twisting the bond.

First Observed by Bridgeman as Explosion of Common Substances Subjected to Pressure and Shear

Effects of High Shearing Stress Combined with Hydrostatic Pressure



Physical Review, 48 (1935) 825-47



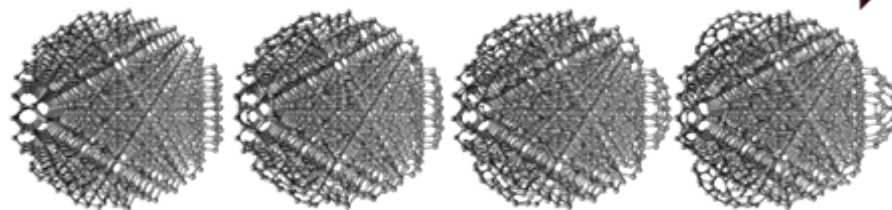
Former Soviet Union had Extensive SBER Program, with Particular Interest in Diamond

Structural Bond Energy Release in Energetic Materials as New Means for Designing Nonconventional High Explosives: An analysis of Soviet Research, Tech Report 1991. A. M. Al'tschuler, Technical Report TRC-91-0003, Technical Research Corporation, McLean, VA (1991).

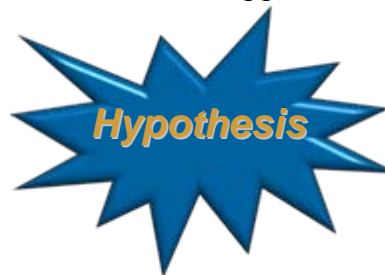
Potential Structural Bond Energy Materials

- ✓ Polymeric Nitrogen, an Extended Solid 8xTNT
- ✓ Nano-Diamonds, a Nanometer Scale Cluster 5xTNT

QM Diamond Surface Reconstruction with Buckyball Features



- Quantum simulations of smaller ND clusters show surface reconstruction to fullerene arrangement, core maintains diamond structure
- Calculations show tensile stress on the surface. Our calculations suggest core pressure in excess of 50GPa.



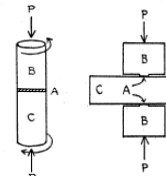
Sudden Disruption of ND Surface will Release Energy Stored in the Compressed Core



SBER: The release of excess energy stored in chemical bonds from structural deformation by compressing, stretching or twisting the bond.

**First Observed by
Bridgeman as Explosion of
Common Substances
Subjected to Pressure and
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Potential Structural Bond Energy Materials

- ✓ Polymeric Nitrogen, an Extended Solid 8xTNT
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Testing the Hypothesis: Hypervelocity Collisions of ND

**Perpendicular to
Axis of Collision**



0.08 ps



0.15 ps



0.20 ps

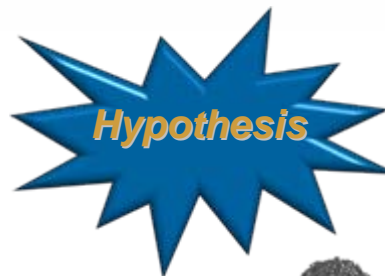
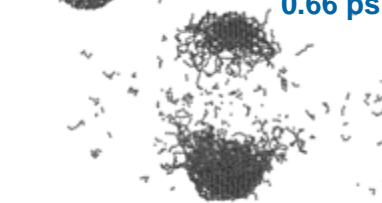
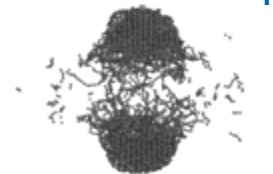
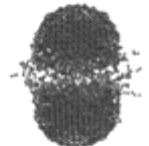


0.40 ps



0.66 ps

**Along Axis of
Collision**



**Sudden Disruption of ND
Surface will Release Energy
Stored in the Compressed
Core**



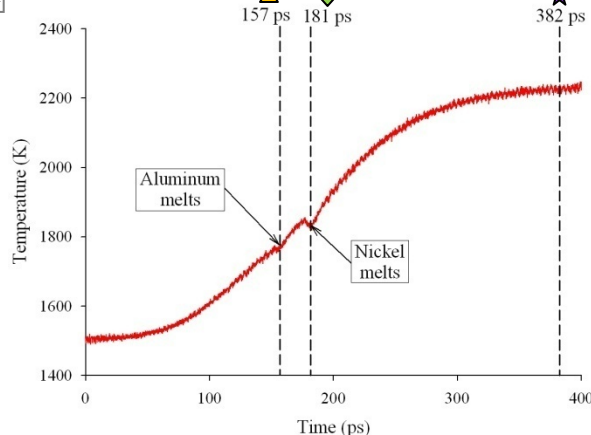
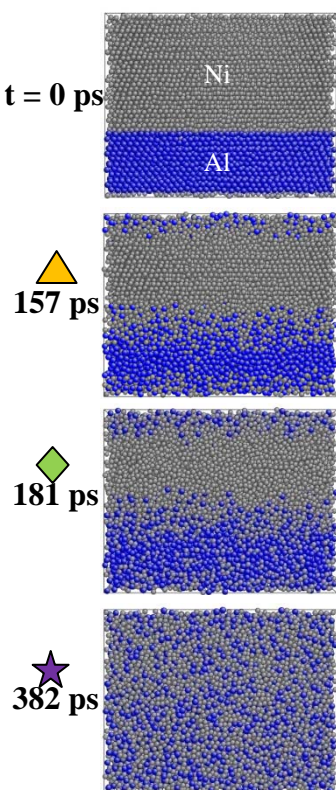
Identifying the Role of Pressure on the Response of Reactive Material to Thermal Initiation: A Molecular Dynamics Study



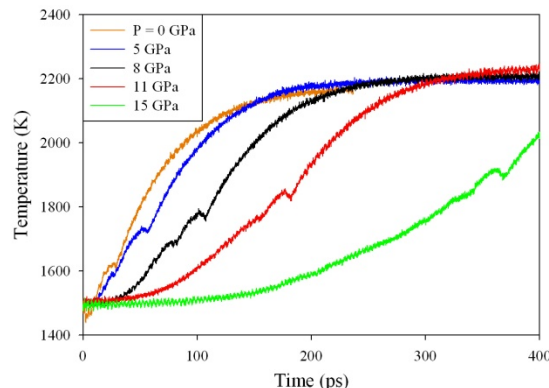
N. Scott Weingarten, William D. Mattson, Anthony D. Yau, and Betsy M. Rice (ARL) and Timothy P. Weihs, The Johns Hopkins University

Molecular dynamics (MD) simulations in the NPH ensemble (number of particles, pressure and enthalpy held constant):

$P = 11 \text{ GPa}$, $T_0 = 1500 \text{ K}$



Pressure strongly influences rate of alloying



- Curves have same features: two “kinks” that correspond to melting of the two layers.
- Al melting always precedes Ni melting
- With increase in pressure, point of Al melting is less distinct

• Initial NVE-MD simulations at $T=1100\text{K}$, reactions were quenched, in disagreement with experiment

• Heating produced by reaction caused significant internal pressure which quenched the reactions

• NPH-MD simulations eliminate this problem: reaction rates are strongly influenced by imposed pressure.

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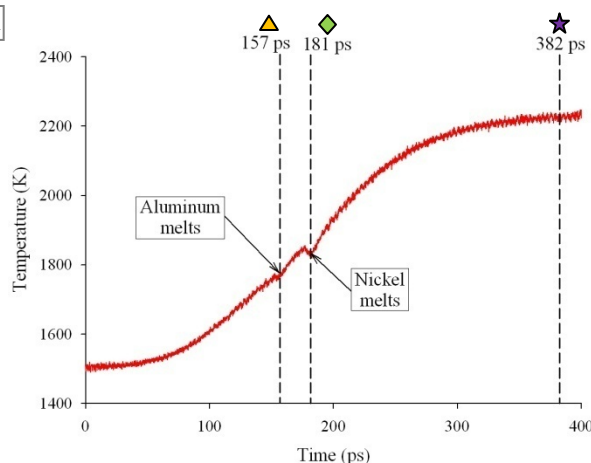
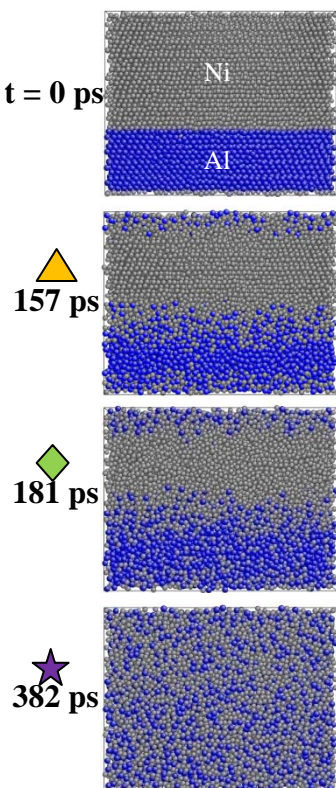


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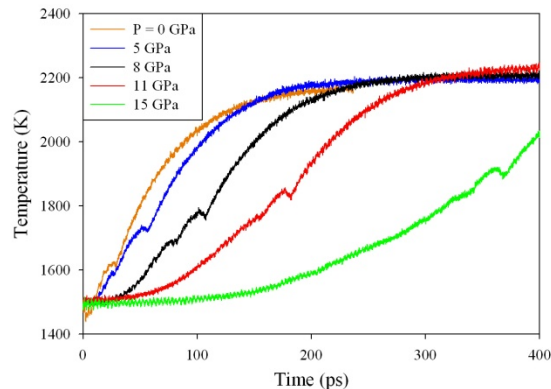
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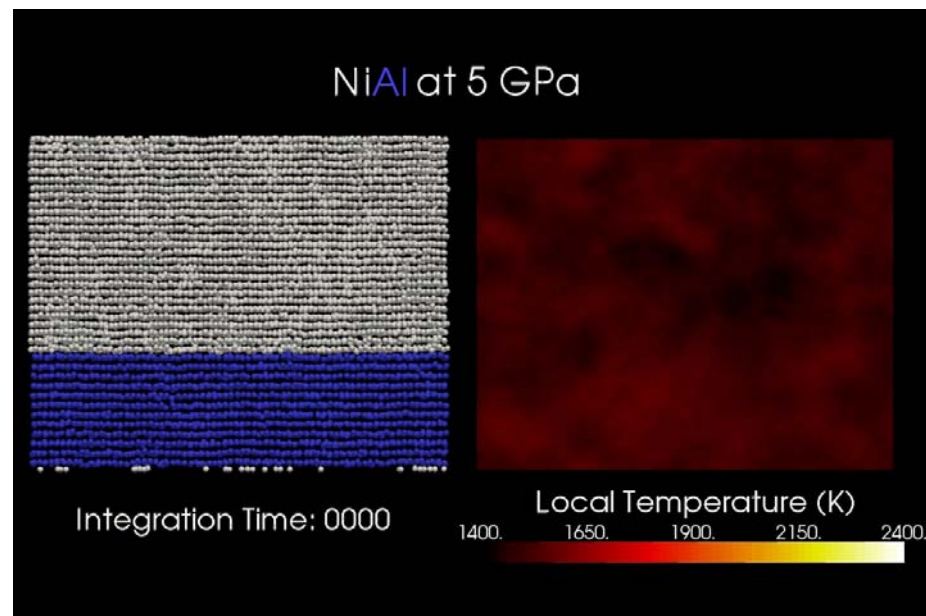
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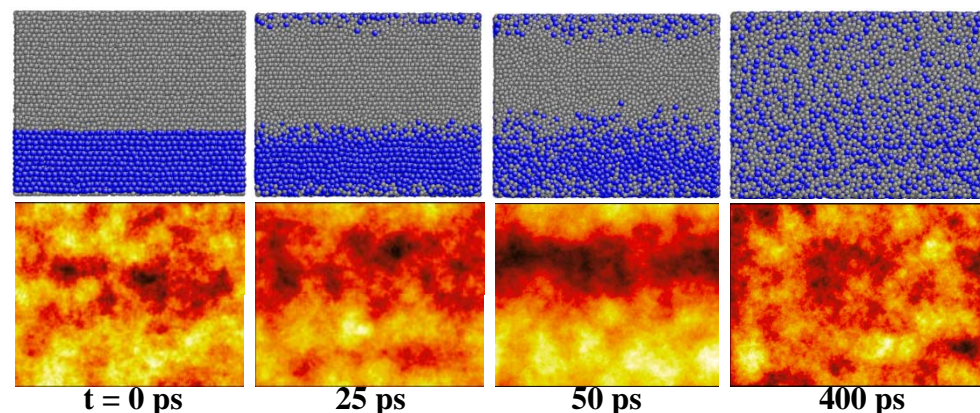
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Temperature inhomogeneities in reacting bilayer:

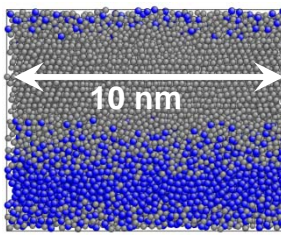
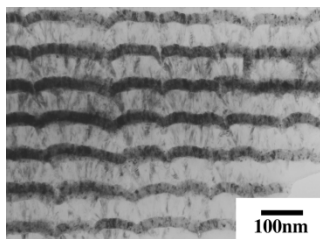


Experimental Programs:

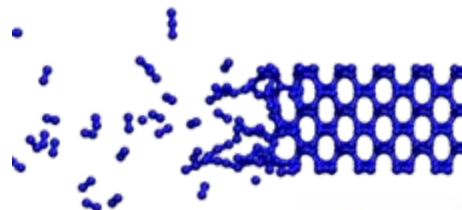
- Assist in experimental data interpretation
- Explore phenomena at inaccessible scales
- Validate or remedy models and methods



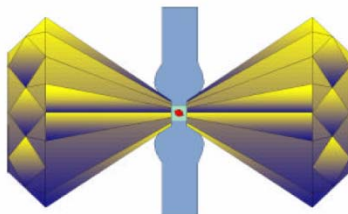
JOHNS HOPKINS
UNIVERSITY



Nanolaminates of reactive materials



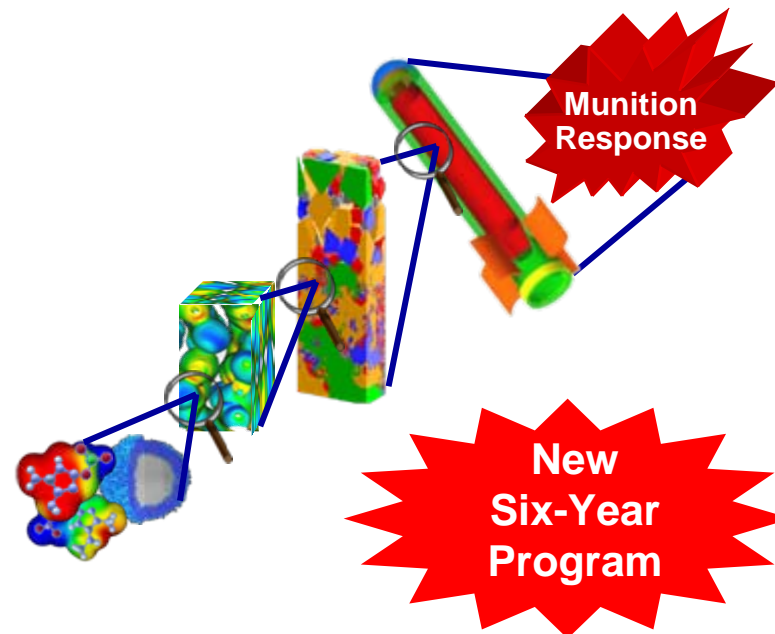
Polynitrogen



35 GPa

Theoretical Programs:

High Performance Computing Software
Application Institute for Multi-Scale
Reactive Modeling and Simulation of
Insensitive Munitions



Questions?